but desiring only an heir-male to prevent the brothers that are next, whom he hates damnably, and protesteth to some of K.s friends that next to his wife he abhorreth them abo^e any

After this he complained to Mr Secretary of tus wife's Scottish heart, and was desirous that the Queen should hear as much, but Sir Robert wished him to forbear because the world would abhor him for it, for, said Mr Secretary, the case was as if a man could not hurt his enemy without hurting himself a great deal more, and therefore advised him to be circumspect in his own passion The Earl replied that he had much ado to love his own daughters because they were of that generation. Mr Secretary answered that they might prove liie their father

My Lord's enemies say also that this reconcilement with his wife was to fish out the secrets of the Esses faction, and to see which way they incline > whereupon he reporteth to the Lord Cobham and Sir Walter that all Essexians be Scottish

6th December THE DUKE OF BIRON'S VISIT

Certain of the upholsterers and saddlers, that from whom the Lord Mayor took up saddles and stuff for the use of Duke of Biron when he was here, complain that they can get no satisfaction for their loss They petitioned the Lords of the Council, who recommended them to the Lord Mayor, but remaining unsatisfied therein the Council again command them to the Lord Mayor, for it is not in reason that they should sustain this damage and loss

gth December THE PARLIAMENT

This day it was disputed whether the Statute of Tillage should be continued , upon which Mr Francis Bacon said that it stands not with the policy of the State that the wealth of the

Kingdom should be ingrossed into a few graziers' hands Sir Walter Ralegh was for its repeal, for he said that so many poor men are not able to find seed to sow so much as they are bound to plough, which they must do or incur the penalty of the law Besides all nations now abound with corn, France offered the Queen to serve Ireland with corn for 16s a quarter, which is but 2s the bushel, if we should sell it so here the ploughman would be beggared Wherefore he thought it best to set it at liberty, and leave every man free, which is the desire of a true Enghsh-